
Chapter 12: Refugee and Migration

Refugee Coordinator Files**B120101 Refugee Coordination and Migration Program Files**

Description: Correspondence, memoranda, reports and other papers on the Refugee and Migration program.

Disposition: Retain at post indefinitely those records remaining after periodic application of pertinent disposal authorization in other chapters of the post records disposition schedules.

DispAuthNo: II-NN-3342, item 1

B120102a Fiscal Records - Invoices, schedules and other papers on funds expended

Description: a. Post Refugee and Migration Section copies.

Disposition: Destroy when 3 years old.

DispAuthNo: II-NN-3342, item 4a

B120102b Fiscal Records - Invoices, schedules and other papers on funds expended

Description: b. Post Budget and Fiscal Section copies.

Disposition: Retire to RSC when 2 years old. Destroy when 5 years old.

DispAuthNo: II-NN-3342, item 4b

B120103 Case Files on Voluntary Agency Employees

Description: Personal history statements, biographical data, and other documents on persons employed by voluntary agencies assisting with the processing of escapees and refugees for resettlement and relocation.

Disposition: Destroy 1 year after termination of employment upon the approval of the Post Security Officer.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-8, item 1

B120104 Correspondence with Voluntary Agencies

Description: Correspondence regarding assistance in aiding relocation and resettlement of refugees and migrants, requests for personal information, the status of certain cases, changes in designation or refugee or migrant, requests for case reviews, questions of eligibility for resettlement, the transmittal of various forms and cards, and other matters relating to refugee and migration cases.

Disposition: Destroy when 5 years old.

DispAuthNo: II-NN-3342, item 7

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Refugee Processing Files**B120201 Registration Cards**

Description: Information on the action taken with regard to each registrant's application.

Disposition: Destroy 2 years after INS interview or date of last action, whichever comes first.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-6, item 1

B120202 Registration Log Books

Description: Log books showing name of registrant and the registration number assigned.

Disposition: Destroy when 3 years old.

DispAuthNo: II-NN-3342, item 13

B120203a(1) Refugee Case Files

Description: Consist of Refugee, Visa-92 and Visa-93 application forms; biographic and demographic information pertaining to applicants (family trees and documents of identity); letters from interested parties; communications between U.S. Embassies, U.S. Consulates, U.S. Government agencies, International Organizations, Foreign Missions, and other interested parties regarding the processing of applicants; and adjudicator's notes on the case.

Active files should be preserved in a manner that would prevent deterioration of these records until such time that the applicants are processed or denied and then transferred to inactive status or microfilmed. These items will be retained either in hard copy or in microfilm, but not both. In the event the files are forwarded to another post, they should be forwarded intact.

a. Approved Cases - Retain at post one copy of documents that are sent with refugee as travel packet.

(1) Paper Files.

Disposition: Retire to RSC when 2 years old. Destroy when 10 years old.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-6, item 2a(1)

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B120203a(2) Refugee Case Files

Description: Consist of Refugee, Visa-92 and Visa-93 application forms; biographic and demographic information pertaining to applicants (family trees and documents of identity); letters from interested parties; communications between U.S. Embassies, U.S. Consulates, U.S. Government agencies, International Organizations, Foreign Missions, and other interested parties regarding the processing of applicants; and adjudicator's notes on the case.

Active files should be preserved in a manner that would prevent deterioration of these records until such time that the applicants are processed or denied and then transferred to inactive status or microfilmed. These items will be retained either in hard copy or in microfilm, but not both. In the event the files are forwarded to another post, they should be forwarded intact.

a. Approved Cases - Retain at post one copy of documents that are sent with refugee as travel packet.

(2) Microfilm.

Disposition: Retire master copy to RSC for storage in case of disaster or accidental destruction. Destroy diazo copy when 2 years old. Destroy master copy when 10 years old.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-6, item 2a(2)

B120203b Refugee Case Files

Description: Consist of Refugee, Visa-92 and Visa-93 application forms; biographic and demographic information pertaining to applicants (family trees and documents of identity); letters from interested parties; communications between U.S. Embassies, U.S. Consulates, U.S. Government agencies, International Organizations, Foreign Missions, and other interested parties regarding the processing of applicants; and adjudicator's notes on the case.

Active files should be preserved in a manner that would prevent deterioration of these records until such time that the applicants are processed or denied and then transferred to inactive status or microfilmed. These items will be retained either in hard copy or in microfilm, but not both. In the event the files are forwarded to another post, they should be forwarded intact.

b. Closed Cases. Case files of refugees that are deceased; have gone to the United States in other than refugee status; resettled in another country; or withdrawn their application.

Disposition: Destroy 2 years after date of last activity.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-6, item 2b

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B120203c Refugee Case Files

Description: Consist of Refugee, Visa-92 and Visa-93 application forms; biographic and demographic information pertaining to applicants (family trees and documents of identity); letters from interested parties; communications between U.S. Embassies, U.S. Consulates, U.S. Government agencies, International Organizations, Foreign Missions, and other interested parties regarding the processing of applicants; and adjudicator's notes on the case.

Active files should be preserved in a manner that would prevent deterioration of these records until such time that the applicants are processed or denied and then transferred to inactive status or microfilmed. These items will be retained either in hard copy or in microfilm, but not both. In the event the files are forwarded to another post, they should be forwarded intact.

c. Denied Cases. At time of denial case files can be retained intact or screened, except for 1 copy of the family tree information deemed essential by the post for future claims.

Disposition: Retain either in hard copy or in microfilm, but not both. Destroy 2 years after date of last activity.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-6, item 2c

B120203d Refugee Case Files

Description: Consist of Refugee, Visa-92 and Visa-93 application forms; biographic and demographic information pertaining to applicants (family trees and documents of identity); letters from interested parties; communications between U.S. Embassies, U.S. Consulates, U.S. Government agencies, International Organizations, Foreign Missions, and other interested parties regarding the processing of applicants; and adjudicator's notes on the case.

Active files should be preserved in a manner that would prevent deterioration of these records until such time that the applicants are processed or denied and then transferred to inactive status or microfilmed. These items will be retained either in hard copy or in microfilm, but not both. In the event the files are forwarded to another post, they should be forwarded intact.

d. Unprocessed Cases. Cases that were never presented to INS for interview.

Disposition: Retain either in hard copy or on microfilm, but not both. Two (2) years after date of last activity return to applicant or destroy.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-6, item 2d

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B120204a Orderly Departure Program (ODP) Case Files

Description: a. Completed Case Files on departed refugees maintained by the originating post.

NOTE: ODP files which include parolee or immigrant cases should follow Consular Affairs schedules.

Disposition: Cases should be microfilmed intact and upon verification of quality, original documents (e.g., birth certificate, marriage license, etc.) should be sent to the refugee and all other paper copies should be destroyed. Post should retire the master copy of microfilm to RSC for storage in case of disaster or accidental destruction. Destroy diazo copy when 10 years old. Destroy master copy when 20 years old.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-6, item 3a

B120204b(1) Orderly Departure Program (ODP) Case Files

Description: b. Inactive Cases. Cases of persons who have withdrawn, been rejected or have disappeared. These records are used in adjudicating new refugee and immigration applications or if the individual reactivates his petition.

(1) Paper records.

Disposition: Retain at post until termination of the Resettlement Program and then destroy. Paper records that have been microfilmed should be destroyed upon verification of microfilm

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-6, item 3b(1)

B120204b(2) Orderly Departure Program (ODP) Case Files

Description: b. Inactive Cases. Cases of persons who have withdrawn, been rejected or have disappeared. These records are used in adjudicating new refugee and immigration applications or if the individual reactivates his petition.

(2) Microfilm.

Disposition: Retire master to RSC for storage in case of disaster or accidental destruction. Destroy masters and diazos upon termination of the Resettlement Program.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-93-6, item 3b(2)

B120205 Monthly Statistical Reports

Description: Reports on refugee and migration work at post.

NOTE: Record copies are sent to the Department.

Disposition: Destroy when no longer needed for reference or statistical purposes.

DispAuthNo: II-NN-3342, item 8

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B120206a Automated Refugee Tracking System (ARTS)

Description: a. Closed case files - Information system designed to assist posts in processing refugees based on local necessities and requirements. Information maintained on this system identifies key elements from refugee case files, i.e., name, date of birth, alien number, case number, exit visa, etc.

Disposition: Within one year of departure of refugee (but not before end of fiscal year), transfer to backup diskette and/or card file and delete information from the database.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-90-1, item 4a

B120206b Automated Refugee Tracking System (ARTS)

Description: b. Reports generated by the system - Information system designed to assist posts in processing refugees based on local necessities and requirements. Information maintained on this system identifies key elements from refugee case files, i.e., name, date of birth, alien number, case number, exit visa, etc.

Disposition: Destroy when obsolete or no longer needed.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-90-1, item 4b

B120207a ODP Database (ODP'S ARTS)

Description: a. Bio data and case processing information - Electronic information on all individuals who have applied for refugee status and requested permission to leave their country. This includes all systems maintained by JVA offices and ODP. Information tracks the individual throughout the process from initial application through departure. Information is obtained from refugees' case files.

Disposition: Retain until termination of the Refugee Resettlement Program and Orderly Departure Program, then destroy or transfer to IVAC as appropriate.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-90-1, item 5a

B120207b ODP Database (ODP'S ARTS)

Description: b. Reports - Bio data and case processing information - Electronic information on all individuals who have applied for refugee status and requested permission to leave their country. This includes all systems maintained by JVA offices and ODP. Information tracks the individual throughout the process from initial application through departure. Information is obtained from refugees' case files.

Disposition: Destroy when obsolete, but no later than one year from creation.

DispAuthNo: N1-84-90-1, item 5b
